

TIME SENSITIVE APPLICATION

The regulations for the 2005-2006 Emergency Impact Aid for Displaced Students have been published in the Federal Register with a very short timeline to make application. **Districts requesting Emergency Impact Aid for Displaced Students must apply to the Iowa Department of Education by January 26, 2006. If the district does not submit its application timely it will be ineligible for funding.**

This law requires that LEAs be responsible for the funding for eligible displaced students enrolled in accredited or approved nonpublic schools located within the district. Each LEA must notify their nonpublic schools of the availability of these funds and of the reporting responsibilities and other requirements for the use of the funds.

An Excel spreadsheet has been placed at <http://www.state.ia.us/educate/katrina> for the LEA to report information on eligible displaced students enrolled in and attending the public school district AND eligible displaced students enrolled in and attending an accredited or approved nonpublic school located within the school district. Return this completed spreadsheet as an email attachment to Deb Schroeder, deb.schroeder@iowa.gov.

The certification page related to this funding is available at <http://www.state.ia.us/educate/katrina>. If you are requesting funding please complete this form and mail to: Deb Schroeder, Consultant, Iowa Department of Education, Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0146. (The initial application for funding must be postmarked no later than Thursday, January 26, 2006.)

Two certification forms applicable to nonpublic students are available at <http://www.state.ia.us/educate/katrina>. These forms are to be retained by the LEA. The first certification must be completed and signed by parent or guardian of eligible displaced students enrolled in nonpublic schools located within the district. The second certification must be completed and signed by the authorized nonpublic school representative of the school located within the district. Both types of certification forms must be kept on file by the LEA. Both of these certifications are necessary before the students can be included on the Excel spreadsheet referenced above.

The U.S. Department of Education has provided a list of "Frequently Asked Questions" (FAQs) and the Federal Register at <http://hurricanehelpforschools.gov/proginfo/index.html>.

Grant Funding Eligibility and Regulations

Displaced Student means a student who, on August 22, 2005, resided in, and was enrolled or eligible to be enrolled in a school in an area for which the Federal

Government later declared a major disaster related to Hurricane Katrina or Hurricane Rita; and as a result of displacement by the storm, is enrolled in a different school. The student must be of school age as defined by the State of Iowa. For example, regular education pre-kindergarten students that were not 5 years old by September 15, 2005, would not be eligible displaced students.

Funding will be distributed based on quarters of enrollment, 25% of the total funding for each quarter that the displaced student is enrolled. If federal funding is not sufficient to pay the full amount to all eligible LEAs in the quarter the funding will be prorated. The maximum total funding a public school can receive for any displaced student is \$6000 for a regular education student or \$7500 for a student served pursuant to an IEP.

The funding must be expended during the 2005-2006 school year and must supplement, not supplant, any funding provided by FEMA or other agency for displaced students. Any balance not expended at the end of the 2005-2006 school year must be returned to the Iowa Department of Education. Services or assistance provided with this funding shall be secular, neutral, and non-ideological. Authorized uses of the funding are:

- Paying compensation of personnel in schools enrolling displaced students;
- Identifying and acquiring curricular materials and classroom supplies;
- Providing basic instructional services for such students (including tutoring, mentoring, or academic counseling);
- Paying reasonable transportation costs;
- Providing health and counseling services;
- Providing education and instructional support services;
- Administrative services, not to exceed 2% of the total payments. Administrative services mean direct costs of administering this grant and/or the restricted indirect cost rate.

Funding shall not be used for construction, repair, renovation or building maintenance.

Additional Regulations Related to Eligible Nonpublic Students

Nonpublic schools that receive payments from accounts on behalf of displaced students enrolled in their schools may use those funds for any of the following services and activities:

- Paying compensation of personnel, including teacher aides;
- Identifying and acquiring curricular materials and classroom supplies;
- Acquiring or leasing mobile educational units or leasing sites and spaces (to the extent that those costs are not met by FEMA);
- Providing basic instructional services for such displaced students (including tutoring, mentoring, or academic counseling);
- Paying reasonable transportation costs;
- Providing health and counseling services; and

- Providing education and support services.

As with payments made on behalf of displaced students enrolled in public schools, there is no requirement that the nonpublic schools use these funds for activities and services that serve only displaced students. Also, nonpublic schools may not use the funds for construction, repair, renovations or building maintenance, and services or assistance provided with this funding shall be secular, neutral, and non-ideological.

Other LEA responsibilities related to funding for Eligible Displaced Non-Public Students:

- The public school district shall administer the funding for services and assistance related to displaced students in nonpublic schools, including holding title to materials, and equipment and shall provide such services or contract for the provision of such services.
- The public school district must obtain from the nonpublic school (1) the total count each quarter of eligible displaced students, (2) attestations of attendance of eligible displaced students, and (3) attestations that the funding is used only for allowable purposes.
- The displaced student must have been enrolled in a nonpublic school prior to December 30, 2005.
- The maximum funding for four quarters of enrollment for any displaced student enrolled in a nonpublic school is the lesser of (1) \$6000 for regular education students/\$7500 for a student served pursuant to an IEP, or (2) the actual cost of tuition and fees, including transportation expenses, if any. The nonpublic school shall waive tuition and fees, or reimburse tuition and fees, in an amount equal to the amount accessed for tuition and fees.
- Prior to making payment for each quarter, the public school must verify with the parent or guardian that the student was enrolled in the nonpublic school for that quarter.
- The public school district must notify the parent or guardian of each displaced student enrolled in a nonpublic school that the funding is temporary and will only be available for the 2005-2006 school year.
- The public school district must expend within 14 days of receipt the funding allocated to it on behalf of each displaced student enrolled in nonpublic schools within the district. If the public school district has not expended the funding within 14 days, it must return the funding for that quarter to the state for any displaced student on whose behalf the funding has not been expended.

Questions related to this special 2005-2006 funding may be addressed to: Deb Schroeder, deb.schroeder@iowa.gov, (515) 281-4741.